



**CITY OF
CHULA VISTA
ATHLETICS SECTION
SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL
Spring 2006**

I. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

A. TEAM FEE

The team fee is for an 8-10 game regular season and a postseason. The team fee includes:

	<u>MEN</u>	<u>COED</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>40+</u>
1. ASA Registration	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	\$12.00
2. Awards	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	\$34.00
3. Game Balls & Supplies	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$25.00
4. General Fund	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	\$90.00
5. Gypsum	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
6. League Coordinator	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$40.00
7. Score Keeper	\$126.00	\$126.00	\$126.00	\$126.00
8. *Forfeit Deposit (Refundable)	\$ 48.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 48.00	\$48.00
RESIDENT TEAM TOTAL FEE	\$380.00	\$380.00	\$380.00	\$380.00
9. Non-Resident Surcharge	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
NON-RESIDENT TEAM TOTAL FEE	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00

Each team will be required to pay \$12 cash to the umpire at each game.

***This deposit covers two nights of umpire fees. If your team forfeits a game the entire fee for the umpires of \$24 will be deducted from this deposit. If you forfeit a second time, you will have until Friday of the current week (or the following Monday for Friday teams) to reimburse the entire fee of \$48, or forfeit your spot in the league. However, if your team does not forfeit a game or doesn't use the entire deposit, it will be refunded to you, or you can roll it over to the next season and not have to pay it again. Play-offs fall under the same rules for forfeits.**

B. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration starts: **ALL LEAGUES** - January 3, 2006. Registration will be held at Parkway Gym, 385 Park Way. Manager's Meetings will be held after registration is completed and offered online. Registration will be taken from 2:00 to 7:00 pm Monday – Friday until February 3, 2006. The season will begin the week of February 13, 2006.

Resident Teams: Teams with 70% of its players who are residents of the City of Chula Vista will be able to register as a resident team. **Sponsored teams** may also register as a resident team if the business is located in the City of Chula Vista. Verification of residency/business must be attached to the roster when registering. **The roster must have the first and last names of at least eight players. Acceptable forms of verification shall be copies of:**

- a. Current drivers license
- b. Current utility bill
- c. Current utility bill
- d. Business license #

Non-Resident Teams: Teams who do not meet the resident team requirements will register as a non-resident team. These teams will have to pay the non-resident surcharge.

C. PAYMENT OF FEES

The entire fee must be paid at the time of registration. No partial payments will be accepted. Additionally, the payment options are a) one check, b) all cash, or c) one check and the rest cash. We are not allowed to take more than one check. Also, no post-dated checks will be accepted. If the bank for any reason returns the team's check, the team manager will be contacted and will have one day to correct the problem. A \$25 service charge will also be required.

D. LEAGUE DAYS AND FIELDS

Men's Leagues: Monday – Friday; Men's Over 40: Monday; Coed: Thursday – Friday; Women: Tuesdays. When a team registers they will be guaranteed the night that they request as long as there are openings for that night. **There are limited spaces on each night. With this, field placement cannot be guaranteed. We will attempt to place you in a league of competitive balance.**

E. WAITING LIST

When the maximum number of teams allowable has been registered or after the registration deadline, the remaining teams will be placed on a waiting list in order of first come first serve priority. Teams that are contacted will have two days to submit the entry fee.

F. REFUNDS

Refunds will only be given to teams if another team on the waiting list is willing to play on that night or, if the League is cancelled. **Refunds will not be given to teams who are not willing to play at a specific field or league.**

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. ROSTERS

1. The team roster will need to be filled out one week prior to the start of the season.
2. All players must sign the team roster before they play. Each roster may have a **maximum** of twenty-two players throughout the season.
3. **Player additions** after the fifth game of the season or those that cause the team to exceed the twenty-two-player limit must have written approval from the Athletics Section.
4. Players must be at least 18 years old. If 18 years old, the player must have graduated high school. All players must meet the age minimums of the league.
5. Last names of players must be used on all score sheets.
6. Players changing teams during the season must have the approval of the Athletic Section.
7. Players must have a valid California Identification card, or a California Drivers License, or a copy of an identification card with an identifiable picture (**It is under the discretion of the League Coordinator to determine if the picture is identifiable**) in order to play in the League.³
8. ****OVER 40 ONLY**:** Two players may be between the ages of 30 – 39 only. All other players must be 40 years old or older.

B. FORFEIT

A team that cannot field eight roster players at game time (coed must have 4 men and 4 women) will have a mandatory ten-minute grace period to field a proper roster, as long as the umpire is on the field, and present at game time. This grace period will be deducted from the game time. If the umpire is not present, the grace period will begin once the umpire is on the playing field and has verified the teams' shortage of players. If a team does not comply after the grace period, a forfeit shall be declared.

A forfeit will be declared if a player is **not** able to show proof of eligibility as indicated above.

A team using an ineligible player, in whatever sense of the word ineligibility may have, may be forced to forfeit the game or games in which the ineligible player played in. The Athletics Section will make this decision.

C. PROTEST

The following procedure must be followed in order to have a protest considered:

1. The manager of the protesting team must notify the following people **immediately (before the next pitch)**:
 - a. Umpire behind home plate
 - b. Opposing manager
 - c. League Coordinator/scorekeeper
2. The full protest must be typed and submitted to the Parkway Gymnasium office within two days of the game in question. Protests must be accompanied by \$20.00; to be refunded only if the protest is judged valid.
3. Protests may be judged valid but not necessarily enforced.
4. Protest will not be considered if it concerns a decision based solely on the accuracy of the judgment on the part of umpires.

D. PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. A player ejected from a game shall leave the area of the field immediately. If instructed by the umpire, the player may be required to leave the bleacher area and the park (sight and sound). Failure to do so may cause the player's team to forfeit the game.
2. **A player ejected from a game may face a one game suspension which will be enforced the following game.** If the player's actions warrant it, they may be required to meet with the League Coordinator and the Recreation Supervisor. Depending on the severity of the action, the player may face suspension from the league, or worse. The League Coordinator has the final decision.
3. A player who is ejected from a game a second time shall be ineligible from further participation this season.
4. A team is responsible for its own fans. If a team cannot control an obnoxious or unruly fan they could forfeit the game. The umpire will warn the managers first before forfeiting the game.
5. **Any player determined to have been drinking before or during the game will not be allowed to play.** Trash talk, taunting and foul language will not be tolerated. Any violation of this rule will result in ejection.

III. CITY OF CHULA VISTA LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Amateur Softball Association Softball rules shall be enforced unless otherwise noted.

Insurance: Players are responsible for providing their own insurance.

Placing: Placing is done at the discretion of the Athletics Section, with the goal to have the most competitive Leagues as possible.

Game times: Game times will be 6:30, 7:40, and 8:50. Each game will last 60 minutes, at this time the game will end. If the inning is not complete at this time, the inning will be completed. **THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA INNINGS**, unless there is still time on the clock and 7 innings have not been completed. (Game times can change due to league size or field availability)

Balls: All of our game balls for the Men's, Men's Over 40, Women's, and Coed leagues are Dudley Thunder COR .44. Each manager is responsible for providing a back up ball prior to the start of the game. **Back up balls – COR .44 or lower.** A team must use their own back-up ball when batting, if it's available. It's encouraged that all teams bring extra balls in case the three balls that you are playing with are not retrieved.

Bats: MEN- Check the ASA non-approved list for banned bats.

COED/WOMEN- Not all ASA approved bats are allowed. See Coed/Women bat rules listed below.

Batting: A player arriving after the game begins must be added to the end of the batting order and may bat when their turn comes up. Teams have the options of batting up to 15-players (Coed 16-players). If the manager elects to bat all players present at game time, he will have free substitutions.

Cleats: Metal cleats **will not** be allowed.

Courtesy Runners: No more than 2 players may have courtesy runners without opposing manager's approval. Courtesy runners should be used for legitimate injuries only. The players who need a courtesy runner must be declared before the game to the umpire and scorekeeper. The courtesy runners will be the last out. If the last out is not available, the next to the last out will be used. If there are no outs, or if the last out is a player who needs a courtesy runner, the last player on the lineup will be used. Before the game the umpire will ask the managers if they would rather use courtesy runners "as needed". In this case, any player may use a courtesy runner and they do not need to be identified before the game. The courtesy runner will remain the last out in this case.

Forfeit: A team must have 8-roster players at game time to avoid forfeit (**coed 4 men and 4 women**). A mandatory 10-minute grace period will be given to a team if it needs it to field a proper roster. If an umpire is not present at game time, the grace period will begin immediately once the umpire is on the field and has verified the number of players for both teams. This time will be deducted from the game time.

Line-ups: The player's first and last name must be on the line-up. The line-up is to be given to the scorekeeper before the game starts.

Home Team: The home team is the second team listed on the schedule game time.

Home Runs: The "one-up" rule will be in effect unless the two managers waive it during their pre-game meeting with the umpire. The "one-up" rule states that no team may hit more than one home run more than the opposing team. An illegal home run will be ruled a foul ball (**at Eucalyptus an illegal homerun will be ruled an out**).

Mercy Rule: The mercy rule will be in effect when any team is winning by 20+ runs after 4 complete innings or 12+ runs after 5 complete innings. At this point the game is over.

League play: The leagues will be played as follows: All teams will play a round robin plus additional games chosen at the discretion of the Athletics Section. Your standings seat you in the tournament.

Tournament Play: The top four teams in the league are eligible for the tournament (This can be adjusted depending on league size). League rules stand for post-season play. For a player to be eligible for the post-season tournament, they must play in half of the games during the season. This tournament will be played in one night and the top two winners of the tournament will receive the awards. There will be no awards for the best records during the season. Your season standings seat you in the tournament only. IF A TOURNAMENT GAME ENDS IN A TIE, THE TEAM WITH THE BEST RECORD IN THE STANDINGS FROM THE REGULAR SEASON WINS THE GAME. THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA INNINGS.

Tiebreakers in the standings will be decided using this criteria and in this order: a) head to head record, b) total runs head to head, c) least runs allowed, d) most runs scored, and e) play-off game. If 3 teams are tied with the same record, the tiebreaker criteria will be as follows: a) most total wins against other 2 teams, b) least runs allowed against other 2 teams, c) most runs scored against other 2 teams.

Tied-games: If a game is tied after game time and the last inning has been completed, the game will end in a tie. Each team will receive a ½ win ½ loss. There will be no extra innings to settle a game unless there is still time left on the 60 minute clock and 7 innings have been completed. If this occurs see "Game Time" in this packet.

Standings: Standings will be with the scorekeeper each week.

ADDITIONAL HOUSE RULES: ALL LEAGUES

Strike Zone - 17" from rear of plate, making 17"x34" rectangle. A legally pitched ball not struck and that lands ON ANY PART OF the strike zone which is 17" wide and 34" in length including the plate, will be ruled a strike by the umpire.

Base Running – Any runner may leave a base as soon as the ball leaves the pitchers hand. If the catcher throws to the base and the ball is caught by an infielder while touching the base and the runner is not touching the base, the runner is out.

Called Game – In a "called game" 5 complete innings constitutes a complete game. With this, after 4 ½ innings, if the home team is winning and the game is called this will be a complete game and the home team will get the win.

Extra Innings – If seven innings have been completed and the game is tied before 60 minutes are up, extra innings may be played until time is up. Follow our end of game rules.

"Wet Bag Condition" – As field conditions change there may be a situation where the umpire declares a "WET BAG CONDITION". When rounding the bases either when advancing on a batted ball or a multiple base hit if "WET BAG CONDITION" is declared it means that all runners may go "over the top/break the vertical plane of the base" when rounding the bases. If any runner does not break the vertical plane of the base it is an "appeal play" just as leaving a base too early on a caught ball. **If there is a force out a player must touch the base.** This rule is a judgment call by the umpire and cannot be protested.

Pitching -The pitcher may take a position in a direct line any distance behind the pitchers plate. The pitcher may also elect to pitch from the pitching plate. The pitcher must come to a full and complete stop with the ball in front of the body. The front of the body must face the batter. This position must be maintained at least one second before starting the delivery. *Once the first pitch has been delivered to a batter the pitcher may continue to pitch from that location or can move closer to or further from the plate, the pitcher need not wait until a new batter is up.* If the pitcher elects to pitch from a distance behind the pitchers plate all pitching regulations are in effect.

Batting - The batter will start their at bat with a count of one ball and one strike.

HOUSERULE- WOMEN ONLY

"6 RUNS PER INNING RULE"- AS LONG AS BOTH MANAGERS AGREE you have the option of using this rule. You will make the decision during the pre-game meeting with the umpire. If a team scores 6 runs in an inning, their at bats would be over and they would take the field no matter what the situation is during the at bat. Hopefully this would lessen the amount of serious blow-outs and keep the games moving.

Bad weather: In case of bad weather call 691-5084 after 3:00 PM for the status of the day's games. You can also check the City web site for field conditions.

WWW.chulavistaca.gov

Go to Recreation / Sports & Athletics

Park Curfew:	All games must end by 10:00pm. If the home team is at bat and is ahead in score, they will be declared the winner. Any other cases the game reverts back to the previous inning.
Drinking and playing:	No player determined to be drinking before the game will be allowed to play.
Smoking:	Smoking is prohibited in the dugout.
Glass containers:	No glass beverage containers are allowed in City parks.
Children:	Children may not be left unattended in the City Parks. Also, children may not be in the field dugout.
Pets:	Pets may not be left unattended in the City parks.
Sportsmanship:	Trash talk, taunting, and foul language will not be tolerated. Disruptive behavior will be punished.
Ejection:	Any player ejected from a game is ineligible to play the following game.

COED RULES

The Amateur Softball Association Softball rules shall be enforced unless noted by the following rules:

1. A defensive team shall consist of 10 players, with a maximum of 5 men and 5 women in the game defensively at all times. However, a game may be played without forfeit with (8) rostered players with 4 of either sex. (Example: 4 women-4 men.) A team may also play with 9 players in the field (5 men – 4 women; 5 women – 4 men). Substitutes must be listed at the bottom. Substitutions or courtesy runners must be of the same sex as the individual being replaced. **If you have lower than 8 rostered players the game will be forfeited.**
2. Batting order. A batting order must be submitted prior to the game and followed during the game. The batting order may not exceed 16 players and must list men and women separately and followed alternately such that two batters of the same sex may never bat consecutively.
3. Courtesy runners shall be the last recorded out made by the player of the same sex. If no player of the same sex has recorded an out, the player of the same sex listed last in the batting order shall be the courtesy runner. Teams are allowed one male and one female courtesy runner in each inning.
4. A minimum of 3 outfielders must be behind an outfield restriction line (160 foot arc from home plate) when the batter hits the pitch. While a female is batting, the rover can only be a female. Penalty: the batter and all base runners will be awarded one base unless each has advanced one base safely, in which case the play proceeds without reference to the violation.
5. There will be no restrictions on a player (man or woman as to which defensive position he or she may play except for rover position when a female is at bat.
6. A male batter, who is walked on 3 consecutive balls without any strikes pitched during his time at bat or intentionally walked prior to any pitches, shall be awarded second base. Base runners advance only if forced to vacate their base. **If 2 outs only:** The following woman batter has the option to take first base or take her at-bats. Note: After a male batter receives 1 or more strikes and is then issued an intentional walk, he shall be awarded first base.
7. We will be implementing a “scoring plate” at home for the Coed Division beginning with the first game. The purpose of the “scoring plate” is to eliminate all plays at home plate.

The “scoring plate” will be set approximately 5 feet away from the original home plate. All plays at home plate shall be by force out only, provided the runner from third has crossed the commitment line. To score, the runner must touch the “scoring plate” before the defensive player touches home plate with the ball in possession. The defensive team may not tag the runner going home: Penalty: the runner is safe and the ball is declared dead. The runner may not slide: Penalty: the runner is out, the ball is declared dead.

Commitment line: If a base runner touches or crosses the commitment line, they are committed to go forward: they may not go back. Penalty: the runner is out and the ball is declared dead.

If you have any questions please call 691-5084 or 585-5700 ext 3052. THANK YOU.

Please visit the City of Chula Vista web site for updated information on your league.

www.chulavistaca.gov/rec

Go to Recreation / Sports & Athletics / Adult Sports

BATS

The City of Chula Vista Men's Softball leagues will be using the criteria of ASA Softball. Check the non-approved bat list with the scorekeeper or check the ASA website at:

http://www.softball.org/about/certified_equipment.asp

BAT RULES (COED AND WOMEN) APPENDIX 2

The ASA Softball criteria for banned bats will be used with the following addendums:

If your bat falls into any or all of these categories it will be declared illegal.

- 1. Titanium bats will be illegal**
- 2. Multi-shelled bats will be illegal.**
- 3. Multi-walled bats will be illegal**
- 4. Any bat exceeding a 1.20 Bat Performance Factor (BPF) will be illegal.**